

CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany REPORTTOPIC Activities in the Mechanized Division Eggesin AreaEVALUATION 25X1
PLACE OBTAINED 25X1DATE OF CONTENT 25X1DATE OBTAINED 8 December 1954REFERENCES 25X1PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)REMARKS 25X1This is UNEVALUATED Information25X1

1. About 80 NCOs and enlisted men of the 1st Mecz Regt were discharged on 20 October, about 75 NCOs and enlisted men of the 2d Mecz Regt were discharged on 21 October, and about 115 NCOs and enlisted men of the 3d Mecz Regt were discharged on 22 October. Officers were only discharged individually and during the whole month. About 60 other men of the 2d Mecz Regt who were also due to be discharged, re-enlisted. Soldiers who stated they wanted to become officers had to pledge themselves to serve a 10-year term in the KVP. 25X1
2. Prior to 19 October, about 400 men of the 2d Mecz Regt were constantly absent for harvest work. 25X1
3. Recruiting activity was again intensified after 22 October. The two 20-man recruiting details of each mechanized regiment were ordered to recruit 32 young persons by early November. 25X1
enlisted replacements were allegedly scheduled to be assigned first to tank and artillery units, next to independent regimental companies, and last to mechanized battalions in the sequence of their consecutive numbers.²
4. In late October, 38 junior lieutenants who came from officer schools were assigned to the 2d Mecz Regt. Those who wore red service color included some who came from Erfurt and Dessau. Some other officers who wore black service color came from Dresden. Captain Wolf (fnu), chief of staff of the 2d Mecz Regt, was superseded by Major Bachhaus (fnu) who came from the division headquarters. 25X1
The former was allegedly reassigned to a unit in Saxonia.³ and 4
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the 1st Mecz Regt had an actual strength of 234 officers and 1,409 enlisted men, while the 2d Mecz Regt numbered 219 officers and 1,491 enlisted men.
6. In October and November training courses for company commanders which were called qualifying courses were held at the regiments.

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At the same time, a training course for supply officers of the division was held at the 1st Meck Regt. A defense course which, in conversations, was generally referred to as an atomic defense course was scheduled to begin on 8 November. The trainees were allegedly to include about 350 KVP, VP-See (navy) and VP-Luft (air force) officers from the whole of East Germany who were scheduled to be quartered in the billeting areas of the 1st and 2d Meck Regts.⁴

7. Buildings under construction included a workshop east of the billeting area and an undetermined number of garages, after completion of which, the 2d Meck Regt would allegedly have stalls for 95 vehicles. Construction of another billeting section following the completion of Section E was allegedly scheduled for the spring of 1955. Surveying work for the new section was allegedly completed.
8. On 20 October, after receiving uniforms at the 3d Meck Regt, about 300 recruits, most of whom were 18 to 25 years old, were trucked to Spechtberg where they were divided up and assigned to the several units of the post.⁵
9. On 2 November, the tank instruction battalion which was stationed at Section C of the Spechtberg installation reassigned about 30 tank drivers and tank commanders to the 1st Meck Regt, about 40 tank drivers and tank commanders to the 2d Meck Regt, and about 30 tank drivers and tank commanders to the 3d Meck Regt.⁴
10. In the early morning of 26, 27 and 28 October, three trucks which carried about 90 KVPs travelled from the direction of Eggesin to the wooded area southeast of the town for record practices with rifles. On 10, 11 and 12 November, six trucks which carried about 150 KVPs drove from the direction of Spechtberg toward Karpin from which direction they returned daily at about 1600. After mid-October, almost no outdoor activity was observed in the Karpin area.⁴
11. Between 5 and 13 November, one- to two-hour firing practices, presumably with tanks, were held in the Neumuehl area daily. This was concluded from the reports of guns.
12. [redacted] numerous enlisted men were still absent for harvest work in the Rosewalk - Strasburg area in the first half of November.
13. In late October, vehicles observed under open shedroofs of the 1953 construction program at installation 804 in Spechtberg included: Section A: 69 tanks which included an undetermined number of T 34/85 tanks, 6 armored personnel carriers, and 6 armored scout cars; Section B: 56 tanks or SP guns, 4 armored personnel carriers, and 6 armored scout cars; Section C: 12 tanks of a so-called C1 battalion (this designation was used by officers with reference to an instruction battalion which was located in the installation). Numerous armored vehicles which included heavy models were also observed on yards in the wooded area on the road from Spechtberg to Neumuehl. ⁵ and ⁶
14. [redacted] installation 803 [redacted] unit, in mid-October, turned in mortars, some of which were delivered to Prague.⁷

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15. [] a clothing and equipment depot for the division commanded by Weiss (fnu) was to be constructed in Gumnitz for the purpose of establishing a supply base in this area. ⁸ 25X1
1. [] Comment. The dates of discharge mentioned in the present report had been announced previously. [] 25X1
[] number of KVP discharges walking to the Eggesin railroad station between 21 and 23 October. For strength figures for the 1st and 2d Mecz Regts see paragraph 5. 25X1
2. [] Comment. Various reports confirms that Party agencies, registration offices and military units have commenced another intensified recruiting campaign. The only reason for this measure is presumably the difficulty in providing replacements for the many numerous KVPs who are due to be discharged now, and ~~in~~ continuing to replenish the units at the same time. 25X1
3. [] Comment. It is believed that the officers who came from Erfurt were graduates of the infantry officer school, while those who came from Dessau were graduates of the platoon and company leader school for infantry, artillery and tank officers who had not been commissioned before, and those who came from Dresden were graduates of the artillery officer school. The date of termination of the training year at schools has apparently been coordinated with the same date at units. Major Backhaus (fnu) has been mentioned as leader of the 2d Mecz Regt in a previous report. 25X1
4. [] Comment. The 1954 training year apparently terminated in late October, while the month of November is used for preparatory measures of all kinds for the new training year which will begin in early December. 25X1
5. [] Comment. Component units of Mechanized Division Eggesin which are known in the Spechtberg installation include: Section A: the medium tank regiment (which is equipped with 65 to 68 tanks); Section B: the heavy tank SP regiment (which has two tank battalions and one SP battalion and is presumably equipped with a total of 65 to 68 tanks); Section C: the tank instruction battalion which is equipped with 12 to 15 tanks. 25X1
6. [] Comment. Heavy models which come into question are the JS-II, the SU-100 and eventually the JSU-122 tanks which are believed to total 120 to 130 in the KVP. If in addition to the tanks observed in the billeting area, more tanks are actually parked in the woods, it can be presumed that - regardless of the appearance the three units may show for reasons of camouflage or training - they have possibly achieved the full total strength of 150 to 155 tanks in accordance with the Soviet pattern. 25X1
7. [] Comment. It is believed that the mortars surrendered have been extra weapons (a mortar regiment has 54 x 120-mm mortars) and have been used to supplement the ordnance of independent mortar companies of infantry regiments. 25X1

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8.  Comment. It is believed that the present report refers to the town of Gumnitz which is located halfway between Eggesin and Torgelow. Colonel Weiss (fnu) is known as commander of Mechanized Division Eggesin.

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